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Commission for Social Development
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Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly: review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups: World Programme of Action for Youth

Portugal,* Republic of Moldova* and Senegal*: draft resolution

Policies and programmes involving youth

The Commission for Social Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 50/81 of 14 December 1995 and resolution 62/126 of 18 December 2007, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action for Youth, as contained in the annexes thereto, and acknowledging that the Programme of Action provides Member States with a useful policy framework and practical guidelines for improving the situation of youth,

Reiterating that all fifteen priority areas of the World Programme of Action for Youth are interrelated,

Recalling the outcome document of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding, adopted by the General Assembly on 26 July 2011,[1]

Bearing in mind calls from Member States in recent years for a meaningful assessment of the situation of youth and for monitoring of the progress made towards implementing the World Programme of Action for Youth,

Stressing that the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, require the full and effective participation of youth

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] See resolution 65/312.

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and youth organizations and other civil society organizations at the local, national, regional and international levels,

Welcoming the initiative of the Government of Sri Lanka to host in 2014 a world conference on youth in Colombo, with a focus on the participation and involvement of youth in achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling its resolutions 47/1 of 13 February 2009 and 49/1 of 18 February 2011 and General Assembly resolutions 64/130 of 18 December 2009 and 65/312 of 20 July 2011, in which the Secretary-General was requested to propose a set of possible indicators linked to the World Programme of Action for Youth, in order to assist Member States in assessing the implementation of the Programme of Action and thus the evolution of the situation of youth,

Taking note of the Five-Year Action Agenda of the Secretary-General, which identifies "Working with and for women and young people" as one of the five generational opportunities,

Stressing that increased coordination and collaboration among United Nations entities and with other regional and international organizations working on youth contribute to making the youth-related work of the United Nations system more effective,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth;[2]

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on a proposed set of indicators for the World Programme of Action for Youth;[3]

3. *Reaffirms* the World Programme of Action for Youth,[4] including its fifteen interrelated priority areas, and calls upon Member States to continue its implementation at the local, national, subregional, regional and international levels, while taking into account the views of youth and youth organizations;

4. *Encourages* Member States to develop comprehensive policies and action plans that focus on the best interests of youth, particularly the poor and marginalized, and address all aspects of youth development, and also encourage the international community and the United Nations system to support national youth programmes and further develop and improve the existing international framework on youth, including the World Programme of Action for Youth, in order to fully address all current challenges affecting youth;

5. *Reaffirms* that the strengthening of international cooperation regarding youth, capacity-building, the enhancement of dialogue, mutual understanding and the active participation of young people are crucial elements of efforts towards achieving the eradication of poverty, full employment and social integration, and in this regard stresses the importance of promoting access to nationally owned social protection and social services as an important instrument for empowering people, including youth, and also stresses the urgent global challenge of youth unemployment by developing and implementing strategies that give young people everywhere a

[2] E/CN.5/2013/7.

[3] E/CN.5/2013/8.

[4] Resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.

real chance to find decent and productive work, and in this context the need for the development of a global strategy on youth employment, building upon, inter alia, the Global Jobs Pact and the call for action of the International Labour Organization;

6. *Reiterates* that the primary responsibility for implementing the World Programme of Action for Youth lies with Member States, and urges Governments, in consultation with youth and youth organizations, to develop holistic and integrated youth policies based on the Programme of Action and to evaluate them regularly as part of the follow-up action on and implementation of the Programme of Action;

7. *Calls upon* Member States to consider, on a voluntary basis, the indicators proposed in the report of the Secretary-General[3] for their selection and adaptation in monitoring and assessing the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth, giving particular attention to young women and marginalized groups, including indigenous youth, youth in rural areas, youth with disabilities and young migrants, taking into account the national social and economic circumstances in each country;

8. *Encourages* Member States to collect, on a continuous basis, reliable, comparable and relevant data, disaggregated by age and sex, to measure progress towards the implementation and monitoring of the World Programme of Action for Youth, and in this regard also encourages Member States to engage youth and youth organizations in the collection, analysis and dissemination of data in the process of assessing progress and evaluating youth policies;

9. *Calls upon* Member States to pay due attention to relevant internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and relevant outcomes and programmes of action, including the World Programme of Action for Youth;

10. *Underlines* the importance of closely consulting with and actively involving youth and youth organizations in the elaboration of the emerging post-2015 development agenda;

11. *Encourages* Member States to consider including youth representatives in their delegations at all relevant discussions in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions and at relevant United Nations conferences, as appropriate, bearing in mind the principle of gender balance and non-discrimination, and to also consider establishing a national youth delegate programme, and emphasizes that youth representatives should be selected through a transparent process which ensures that they have a suitable mandate to represent young people in their countries;

12. *Urges* Member States to promote the full and effective participation of young people from various cultural, religious, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds, as well as young people with disabilities and indigenous youth, in interactive forums, with the aim of enabling discussion and working together around common issues and ideals;

13. *Encourages* Member States to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women in all aspects of youth development, recognizing the vulnerability of girls and young women, and the important role of boys and young men in ensuring gender equality;

14. *Takes note with interest* of the initiative entitled "Working with and for women and young people" set out in the Five-Year Action Agenda of the Secretary-

General, which includes the appointment of an Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth, the development of a system-wide action plan on youth and the creation of a United Nations youth volunteering modality, and requests the Secretary-General to brief Member States urgently on the initiative and to provide follow-up as appropriate;

15. *Notes with appreciation* the increased collaboration among United Nations entities on youth through the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development, calls upon the United Nations entities to develop additional measures to support local, national, regional and international efforts in addressing challenges hindering youth development, and in this regard encourages close collaboration with Member States and other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, particularly youth-led organizations;

16. *Calls upon* donors, including Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to actively contribute to the United Nations Youth Fund in order to facilitate the participation of youth representatives from developing countries in the activities of the United Nations, taking into account the need for greater geographical balance of youth representation, as well as to accelerate the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth and to support the production of the *World Youth Report*, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate action to encourage contributions to the Fund;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission for Social Development at its fifty-second session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution, including on progress related to young people, in accordance with the Five-Year Action Agenda of the Secretary-General.